

EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE

PATENT

Docket No. 255.00040101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Sheridan et al.

Group Art Unit: 1646

Serial No.: 09/727,739

Examiner: Ruixiang Li

Confirmation No.: 4181

Filed: December 1, 2000

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APR 27 2004

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Dear Sir:

The Final Office Action mailed February 4, 2004, has been received and carefully reviewed. Entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompany remarks, is respectfully requested. It is submitted that the following amendment canceling claims 16-20 places the application in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on the page entitled "Amendments to the Claims."

Remarks begin on the page entitled "Remarks."